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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/084,762	02/22/2002	Shinichi Kurita	006885 DISPLAY/AKT	5381

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APPLIED MATERIALS, INC.
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SANTA CLARA, CA 95050

EXAMINER

KIM, SANG K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3654

DATE MAILED: 04/06/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/084,762

Applicant(s)

KURITA ET AL.

Examiner

SANG KIM

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 January 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 13-27 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-9,11,12,28,29 and 31-36 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-4, 10, and 30 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Pri rity under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Claim Objections

Claim 7 is objected to because of the following informalities: "a roller coupled between...etc.," is objected because applicant fails to explain what element or how it is coupled. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2, 5-9, 11-12, 28-29, and 31-36 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Maekawa et al, U.S. Patent No. 5775000.

With respect to claim 1, Maekawa '000 shows applicants' claimed invention, specifically teaching an apparatus for supporting a substrate (S), comprising: a support plate (12) having a first side (no reference number assigned) adapted to support the substrate (S) and a first edge bounding a portion of the first side, as shown in Fig. 4; a first body (16) rotationally disposed proximate the first edge; and a first pushing member (the end portion of element 16, as shown in figure 5) radially coupled to the first body (by a radially shaped shaft 18) and adapted to move the substrate in a first direction (indicated by an arrow A, movement toward the center) parallel to the first side when the first body (16) rotates, as shown in figures 4-5.

With respect to claim 2, Maekawa '000 shows the first body (16) has a rotational axis (along the shaft 18) parallel (when looking at a side view) to a plane of the first side, as shown in figure 5.

With respect to claim 5, Maekawa '000 shows the first pushing member (the end portion of element 16) has a concave face adapted to move the substrate (S), wherein the first direction is tangent to the concave face, as shown in Fig. 4.

With respect to claims 6 and 7, Maekawa '000 shows the first body (16) is activated by an actuator (35), and a roller (21) coupled by a pivot shaft (22) located between a rotational axis (the shaft 18) of the first body (16) and the first pushing member (the end portion of element 16), as shown in figures 3-5.

With respect to claim 8, Maekawa '000 shows the first body (16) further comprises: a first flange (17), a second flange (17), a center portion (no reference number assigned, part of shaft 18) coupling the first and second flanges (17); a first hole (where the shaft 18 is located) formed through the first and second flanges (17) coaxial with a first axis of rotation (along the shaft axis 18) of the first body (16); and a roller (21) disposed between the first and second flanges (17), the roller (21) having a second axis of rotation (along the pivot shaft 22) orientated parallel to the first axis of the first body (16), the second axis (along the pivot shaft 22) defined between the first axis (along the shaft 18) and the center portion (part of shaft 18), as shown in Figs. 5-6.

With respect to claim 9, Maekawa '000 shows a biasing member (20) disposed between at least one of the first and second flanges (17) and the roller (21), the biasing

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member (20) adapted to rotate the first body (16) about the first axis (along the shaft 18), as show in figures. 5-6.

With respect to claims 11 and 12, Maekawa '000 shows a second body (different 16, as shown in figure 4 which also shows up to six different bodies) rotationally disposed proximate a second edge of the support plate (12), the second edge disposed adjacent the first edge; and a second pushing member (the end portion of element 16) radially coupled to the second body (by a raidally shaped shaft 18) and adapted to move the substrate (S) in a second direction (no reference number assigned) that is different that the first direction when the second body rotates; a third body (different 16) and a fourth body (different 16) are in Figs. 3-5.

With respect to claims 28-29 and 31-36, the method described in these claims would inherently result from the use of invention of Maekawa '000 as advanced above. Since Maekawa '000 shows placing a substrate (S) on a support (12); elevating a cooling plate (34) towards the support to actuate an alignment mechanism (such as 16); and moving a first pushing member (the end portion of element 16) of the alignment mechanism towards a center of the support in response to the actuation to move the substrate in a first direction (indicated by an arrow A, movement toward the center); and rotating the first push member about a second axis (along the shaft 18, looking from a top-view) is perpendicular to the first direction, as shown in figures 3-5.

Response to Arguments

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Applicant's arguments, see pages 14-15, filed on 1/6/04, with respect to claims 3-4, 10, 13-27, and 30, have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection based on Maekawa has been withdrawn.

Applicant's arguments filed on 1/6/04 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive with respect to claims 1-2, 5-9, 11-12, 28-29, and 31-36.

Applicant argues that Maekawa does not teach a first pushing member radially coupled to a first body and adapted to move the substrate in a first direction parallel to a first side of a substrate support when the first body rotates, as recited in claim 1.

Maekawa shows a first pushing member (the end portion of element 16, as shown in figure 5) radially coupled to the first body (by a radially shaped shaft 18) and adapted to move the substrate in a first direction (indicated by an arrow A, movement toward the center) parallel to the first side when the first body (16) rotates, as shown in figures 4-5. Since Maekawa shows that the swing fingers and the side plates can move in the same direction (A). Thus, when the swing fingers move in (A) direction, it may push the substrate as the swing fingers move from a rotating motion as shown in figure 5.

Applicant argues that Maekawa does not teach a pushing member having two different rotational axes. However, applicant's claims 32 and 36 recite only one rotational axis.

Applicant argues that Maekawa does not teach a pushing member is adapted to move a substrate in a direction tangent to a concave face and parallel to a first side of a

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substrate support. However, applicant's claim 5 recites the first pushing member has a concave face adapted to move the substrate.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 13-27 are allowed.

Claims 3-4, 10, and 30, are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sang Kim whose telephone number is (703) 305-3712.

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The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. alternating Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kathy Matecki can be reached on (703) 308-2688. The fax phone numbers are (703) 872-9326 for regular communications and (703) 872-9327 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

SK

3/18/04

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Matecki". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KATHY MATECKI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600